

NEWS RELEASE



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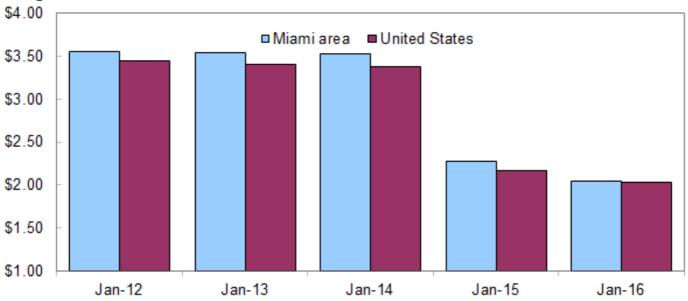
Average Energy Prices, Miami-Fort Lauderdale - January 2016

Gasoline prices averaged \$2.041 a gallon in the Miami-Fort Lauderdale area in January 2016, the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics reported today. Regional Commissioner Janet S. Rankin noted that area gasoline prices were down \$0.233 compared to last January when they averaged \$2.274 per gallon. Miami area households paid an average of 11.2 cents per kilowatt hour (kWh) of electricity in January 2016, down from 11.8 cents per kWh in January 2015. The average price of utility (piped) gas at \$1.509 per therm in January, was less than the \$1.590 per therm spent last year. (Data in this report are not seasonally adjusted. Accordingly, month-to-month changes may reflect the impact of seasonal influences.)

Miami area consumers paid \$2.041 a gallon for gasoline in January 2016, similar to the \$2.034 paid nationally. A year earlier, consumers in the Miami area paid \$2.274 for a gallon of gas which was similar to the national average. The average price for a gallon of gasoline in Miami in the month of January has been comparable to the nation in three of the last five years. (See <u>chart 1</u>.)

Chart 1. Average prices for gasoline, Miami-Fort Lauderdale and the United States, 2012-2016 (as of January)

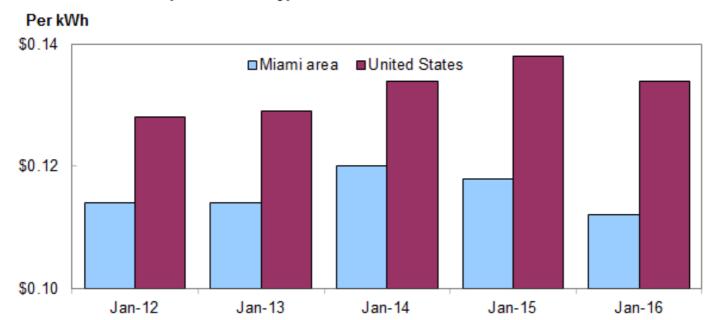




Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The 11.2 cents per kWh Miami households paid for electricity in January 2016 was 16.4 percent less than the nationwide average of 13.4 cents per kWh. Last January, electricity costs were 14.5 percent lower in Miami compared to the nation. The local price of electricity in the Miami area in January was at least 10 percent less than the U.S. in each of the last five years. (See chart 2.)

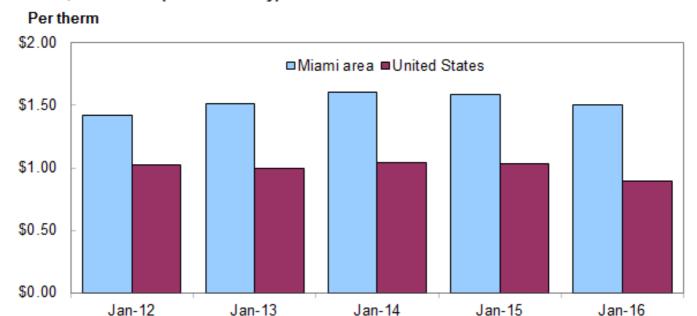
Chart 2. Average prices for electricity, Miami-Fort Lauderdale and the United States, 2012-2016 (as of January)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

Prices paid by Miami area consumers for utility (piped) gas, commonly referred to as natural gas, were \$1.509 per therm, or 68.0 percent higher than the national average in January 2016 (\$0.898 per therm). A year earlier, area consumers paid 53.5 percent more per therm for natural gas than the nation. Four of the last five years, the per therm cost for natural gas in the Miami area exceeded the U.S. average by more than 50 percent in the month of January. (See chart 3.)

Chart 3. Average prices for utility (piped) gas, Miami-Fort Lauderdale and the United States, 2012-2016 (as of January)



Source: U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

The **Miami-Fort Lauderdale**, **Fla.**, **Metropolitan Statistical Area** consists of Broward and Miami-Dade Counties in Florida.

The Consumer Price Index for February 2016 is scheduled to be released on Wednesday, March 16, 2016.

Technical Note

Average prices are estimated from Consumer Price Index (CPI) data for selected commodity series to support the research and analytic needs of CPI data users. Average prices for electricity, utility (piped) gas, and gasoline are published monthly for the U.S. city average, the 4 regions, the 3 population size classes, 10 region/size-class cross-classifications, and the 14 largest local index areas. For electricity, average prices per kilowatt-hour (kWh) are published. For utility (piped) gas, average prices per therm are published. For gasoline, the average price per gallon is published. Average prices for commonly available grades of gasoline are published as well as the average price across all grades.

All eligible prices are converted to a price per normalized quantity. These prices are then used to estimate a price for a defined fixed quantity. The average price per kilowatt-hour represents the total bill divided by the kilowatt-hour usage. The total bill is the sum of all items applicable to all consumers appearing on an electricity bill including, but not limited to, variable rates per kWh, fixed costs, taxes, surcharges, and credits. This calculation also applies to the average price per therm for utility (piped) gas.

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Table 1. Average prices for gasoline, electricity, and utility (piped) gas, Miami-Fort Lauderdale and the United States, January 2015-2016, not seasonally adjusted

	Gasoline per gallon		Electricity per kWh		Utility (piped) gas per therm	
		United		United		
Year and month	Miami area	States	Miami area	States	Miami area	United States
2015						
January	2.274	2.170	0.118	0.138	1.590	1.036
February	2.329	2.308	0.118	0.138	1.530	1.007
March	2.521	2.544	0.119	0.136	1.531	0.985
April	2.570	2.545	0.119	0.137	1.507	0.947
May	2.687	2.832	0.116	0.137	1.529	0.930
June	2.776	2.889	0.116	0.143	1.547	0.942
July	2.752	2.893	0.116	0.142	1.518	0.933
August	2.556	2.745	0.116	0.142	1.518	0.932
September	2.342	2.463	0.116	0.141	1.518	0.921
October	2.274	2.357	0.116	0.136	1.518	0.909
November	2.225	2.249	0.116	0.134	1.519	0.903
December	2.154	2.125	0.116	0.133	1.519	0.892
2016						
January	2.041	2.034	0.112	0.134	1.509	0.898